

NASA Investments in our Future: Exploring Space through Innovation and Technology

Abstract: NASA Deputy Chief Technologist Dr. Michael Gazarik will provide an overview of NASA's planned research, innovation and technology investments that focus on enabling bold robotic and human exploration of the solar system while providing broadly-applicable benefits on Earth. Dr. Gazarik will highlight NASA's push for disruptive technologies that may enable exploration of deep space, including near-Earth asteroids and eventually Mars. This technology-enabled exploration strategy will allow NASA to explore beyond low Earth orbit more efficiently, safely, and expeditiously. Central to this approach, NASA's new Space Technology Program seeks to create the technological knowledge and capability needed to enable a new generation of NASA aeronautics, science, and exploration missions. By taking informed risks and focusing on high-payoff technologies, the Space Technology Program will provide the answers to the Agency's future technological needs. Developing these new transformational technologies and capabilities will require the best of academia, industry, and our government labs. Dr. Gazarik will also highlight NASA's technology development roadmaps, as provided to the National Research Council (NRC), that describe the research and technology development investments required for tomorrow's great discoveries.